LIFE IN NATURE ON LAKE MICHIGAN

New Buffalo Times

NEWS
$1

THE OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER OF NEW BUFFALO, MICHIGAN • SINCE 1942

CHICAGO • LONG BEACH • MICHIANA SHORES • GRAND BEACH • NEW BUFFALO • UNION PIER • THREE OAKS • LAKESIDE • HARBERT • SAWYER

issue 11, volume 84 www.newbuffalotimes.com Thursday, March 20, 2025

City council approves purchase of personal watercraft; approves lease agreement for softball field 4 **PAGE 4**

Village council discusses next steps for water treatment **PAGE 5**

Chikaming firefighter Miller promoted to station captain **PAGE 6**

Township board adopts short-term rental ordinance amendment; approves additional marijuana establishment **PAGE 9**

David's Delicatessen celebrates 15 years of corned beef **PAGE 18**

FEED ME...

'LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS' ROCKS THE NEW BUFFALO STAGE

— PAGES 10-11 —

PHOTO OF HENRY GADIEL, DEONNA MCGREW AND ADDISON LAMPORT REVELING IN THE GOOD FORTUNE FROM AUDREY II BY FRANCESCA SGALA

Passaro, Kahne, Taylor, DeFrancesco, & Thompson
LAW OFFICES *your local common-sense legal team*

685 West Main Street, Benton Harbor, MI 49022 | (269) 983-0325 | passarokahne.com
17656A US Highway 12, New Buffalo, MI 49117 | (269) 469-5297 | Fax: (269) 983-0328

- *Business/Tax Law*
- *Estate Planning*
- *Medicaid & Long-Term Care Planning*
- *Real Estate*
- *Special Needs Planning*
- *Probate and Trust Administration*

Calvary Chapel New Buffalo

CALVARYCHAPELNB.ORG

We are a non-denominational church teaching through the bible line by line
Sunday service 1015 ET
Thursday bible study 7pm ET
Saturday men's bible study 915 ET in person and zoom
Saturday women's bible study 1030 ET on zoom
1615 E Buffalo St. New Buffalo, Mi

Trust It To Be Wonderful
Timothys RESTAURANT
16409 Red Arrow Highway | Union Pier

WHEN YOU LOOK GOOD, YOU FEEL GOOD
the Love Spell boutique
9 W MECHANIC ST
NEW BUFFALO, MI

TREECORE
COMPLETE TREE & CRANE SERVICE
269-469-6226
Fully Insured JOE CARR

Bloomery
11429 O'Brien Ct, New Buffalo, MI 49117
BLOOMERYCANNABIS.COM

EXIT 1's Best Recreational Selection

BEST PRICES | HIGH QUALITY PRODUCTS | PREMIER LOYALTY PROGRAM | + SO MUCH MORE

LOYALTY LEVEL-UP REWARDS
WE PRICE MATCH
CURBSIDE PICKUP

FREE INFUSED PRE ROLL with $30 purchase
FREE GRAM OF WAX with $50 purchase
FREE MITTEN+ 1G DISPOSABLE with $60 purchase
FREE 3.5 GRAMS FLOWER with $75 purchase
FREE 7 GRAMS FLOWER with $99 purchase
FREE MITTEN PREROLL MULTIPACK with $125 purchase
30% OFF with $150 purchase
FREE BLUE TIER OUNCE with $200 purchase

EXPIRES 8/20/24
Coupons can not be combined or stacked. Rules and restrictions apply. Limit 1 offer per customer. Valid at Bloomery New Buffalo

New Buffalo Times
LOCAL INTELLIGENCE
— SINCE 1942 —

ETHICS
SOCIETY OF PROFESSIONAL JOURNALISM
MICHIGAN PRESS ASSOCIATION MEMBER

PROPRIETOR
NEW BUFFALO TIMES, INC.

EDITOR
NEW BUFFALO TIMES INTELLIGENCE
EDITORIAL BOARD

CREATIVE DIRECTOR
JOE DURK

REPORTERS/WRITERS
THERESE DONNELLY
FRANCESCA SAGALA
LAWRENCE VON EBELER
KURT MARGGRAF
ALEXANDER FATOUROS
SOPHIA R. FATOUROS
STAN MADDUX
KRISTIN E. FATOUROS
NEW BUFFALO TIMES INTELLIGENCE
NEW BUFFALO TIMES POLITICS
GUESTS

QUOTES
DINO N. FATOUROS

PROOFING
FRANCESCA SAGALA

BROADCAST/ADVERTISING
JANINE ADAMSKI 630-370-0820
OR JANINEADAMSKI@GMAIL.COM

SUGGESTIONS, CRITICISM, IDEAS
MEDIA@NEWBUFFALOTIMES.COM

ADVERTISING
MEDIA@NEWBUFFALOTIMES.COM

CLASSIFIED ADS
CLASSIFIEDS@NEWBUFFALOTIMES.COM

SUBSCRIPTIONS
SUBSCRIPTIONS@NEWBUFFALOTIMES.COM

COMMUNICATE DIRECTLY
WITH NEW BUFFALO TIMES
INFO@NEWBUFFALOTIMES.COM

Periodical Postage paid in
New Buffalo, MI. Postmaster,
please send address changes to:
NEW BUFFALO TIMES
PO BOX 369, New Buffalo, MI 49117

©2025 NEW BUFFALO TIMES, INC.
PUBLICATION NUMBER 377960
CIRCULATION 5,000+ WEEKLY

NEW BUFFALO TIMES distribution:
Milda's Corner Market • Sawyer Garden Center • The Whistle Stop
David's Delicatessen • Barney's
Knoll Bros. • Stray Dog
Infusco Coffee Roasters
Black Currant Bakehouse • Redamak's
Between Casey's and Nancy's
Froehlics - Three Oaks • The Lakeside Inn
Michigan City, IN • Chicago, IL
Kalamazoo, MI • Grand Rapids, MI
Three Oaks, MI • Union Pier, MI
Sawyer, MI • St. Joseph, MI

For the most convenient location, you can subscribe to get the *NEW BUFFALO TIMES* in your mailbox or inbox. Please email us for E-TIMES, info@newbuffalotimes.com.

New Buffalo Railroad Museum adds new board members

The Board of Directors of the New Buffalo Railroad Museum has added two new members to its roster: Wayne Butler, Jr. and Ed Fidler.

Butler is a 1986 graduate from New Buffalo High School. After graduation, he joined the Navy and served six years, mostly on the West Coast in California and Washington. He got out of the Navy in 1992 and earned his bachelor's of science and master's of education administration from Central Washington University. Immediately after that, he started his teaching career in Washington and then in Alaska before moving home to New Buffalo. That led into his time working as a teacher, athletic director and, ultimately, principal at New Buffalo High School from where he ultimately retired. He also coached football and basketball, but it was his coaching of baseball which lasted for 25 years. He loves to travel and one of his favorite hobbies is model railroading. He is looking forward to working with the members of the New Buffalo Railroad Museum to continue bringing this wonderful attraction to the area.

Fidler retired two years ago from New Buffalo Area Schools, after 20 years of service in the community as a high school math teacher, coach, and advisor. He continues as a substitute teacher when needed and also coaches varsity golf. Since retirement, he has started a new handy-man service and some of his work has included work at the New Buffalo Railroad Museum. His wife, Amy, has been the clerk for the City of New Buffalo for the past eight years. Together, they have lived in and have been involved in the New Buffalo community for many years, where they raised their two sons and still reside. The entire family cheers for the University of Notre Dame for many reasons, including Fidler having been employed by Notre Dame for over

***[back row]* Ed Fidler, Wayne Butler, Jr., Rich Knoll, Todd Van Buskirk; *[front row]* Therese Donnelly, Sherri Kerhoulas, Joan Putzke, Vanessa Holecek Thun, Katha Kissman**

20 years. Fidler received his bachelor of science in secondary math education from Indiana University in 1996. In 2013, he received his master of arts in educational technology from Western Michigan University.

Established in 1989, the mission of the New Buffalo Railroad Museum is to preserve our history and enrich our community for future generations. The museum was built as part of the development and renovation of the old and vacated Pere Marquette Railroad Roundhouse property located on S. Whittaker Street. In the 1920s, the Pere Marquette Roundhouse was a major terminus connecting the rich trade area of Northern Michigan with the Chicago mercantile and shipping markets and served as the major employer for the residents of the New Buffalo Area. The museum is housed in a replica of the original Pere Marquette Depot that existed near the site in the 1920s. The original depot building blueprints were discovered by life-long New Buffalo area residents Nadra and Al Kissman and Ronald and Rolland Oselka. The building was built from those original blueprints by Alvin R. Kissman, Dave Olms and George Slechta. The programs, artifacts and maintenance of the museum are overseen by the board of directors and have been administered at various times by Katha Kissman, Nadra Kissman, Al Kissman, George Slechta, and Karla Kissman Madison, with assistance from Michelle Holub VandenHombergh, and Carey James.

In addition to the permanent exhibit of artifacts related to the general history of New Buffalo, the museum also includes a special Veterans Display highlighting local veterans back to the Civil War and a tribute to the New Buffalo Area Schools, CSX Transportation donated a Chessie System Box Car, a World War II Railroad Troop Car and a C&O Caboose. For years, the City of New Buffalo also hosted the historic Fire Pump, which was used to fight the Great Chicago Fire in 1971. The Duneland Model Railroad Club also maintains a model trail layout, which depicts how the village of New Buffalo might have appeared in the 1920s. Over the years, the museum has played host to a variety of community and private events and services. Since its inception, thousands of first home and second home residents and visitors have enjoyed visiting the museum.

A give-back dinner to support the museum at Sonny D's Restaurant will take place Monday, March 24. Those attending must say they are there for the give back dinner. The museum will host its annual fundraiser, The Box Car Buffet, May 7 at the New Buffalo Yacht Club. Supporting sponsors are SEMCO and State Farm Insurance and the museum's friend sponsor, AMTRAK.

For details or for more information, visit www.new-buffalo-railroad-museum.org/orontact the Museum at ask@new-buffalo-railroad-museum.org.

The museum is open from noon to 5 p.m. Saturday and Sundays from April through October. — STAFF REPORTS

Analyzing your sense impressions is the most important thing. Why? Because it's the first and only cause of acting intelligently or in erring. *— Dino N. Fatouros*

Local Government Meetings

New Buffalo Times

Democracy Requires Transparency

CITY OF NEW BUFFALO
VANCE PRICE, MAYOR
CITY COUNCIL
MARK ROBERTSON, ROGER LIJEWSKI, KAREN GEAR, RICH KNOLL, VANCE PRICE
City Council meets on the 3rd Monday of each month at 6:30PM
CITY OF NEW BUFFALO PLANNING COMMISSION MEETINGS
Meets on the 1st Tuesday of each month at 5:30PM
NEW BUFFALO TOWNSHIP BOARD
HOWARD MALES, MICHELLE HEIT, MICHELLE HANNON, PATTY IAZZETTO, BARBARA ANDERSON
Board meets on the 3rd Monday of each month at 4PM
NEW BUFFALO TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION
Meets on the 1st Tuesday of each month at 6:30PM
SHERIFF BERRIEN COUNTY
Sheriff, Chuck Heit
Undersheriff, Greg Sanders
NEW BUFFALO AREA RECREATIONAL AUTHORITY
Meets at 10AM on the 2nd Wednesday of every other month (odd) at New Buffalo Township Hall, 17425 Red Arrow Highway New Buffalo
NEW BUFFALO AREA SCHOOLS BOARD
LISA WERNER, JOHN HASKINS, DENISE CHURCHILL, JENNIFER SUMMERS, VANESSA THUN, STEPHEN DONNELLY, GREG VOSBERG
CHIKAMING TOWNSHIP
CHIKAMING TOWNSHIP BOARD
DAVID BUNTE, PAULA DUDIAK, LIZ RETTIG, RICHARD SULLIVAN, ARTHUR ANDERSON
Chikaming Board meets on the 2nd Thursday of each month at 6:30PM
CHIKAMING TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION
Meets on the 1st Wednesday of each month at 6:30PM
THREE OAKS
THREE OAKS TOWNSHIP BOARD
Meets on the 2nd Monday of each month at 7PM
VILLAGE OF THREE OAKS BOARD
Meets on the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 7PM
GRAND BEACH
Meets on the 3rd Wednesday at 5PM EST
KIMBERLY WOLNIK, CLERK-TREASURER
HARRY WALDER, JACK GRACE, ED SEBASTIAN, PETER DOERR, EDWARD BRANDES
MICHIANA
VILLAGE OF MICHIANA COUNCIL
Meets on the 2nd Friday of each month at 1PM

City council approves purchase of personal watercraft

APPROVES LEASE AGREEMENT FOR SOFTBALL FIELD 4

BY THERESE DONNELLY

City lifeguards will have help in water rescues now that the New Buffalo City Council has approved the purchase of a personal watercraft from Zeigler Motorsports for $21,211.12.

During the March 17 council meeting, City Manager Darwin Watson explained the cost includes a four-year warranty and three years of winter storage.

Parks Director Kristen D'Amico told the council all lifeguards will receive training on water rescues using a sled pulled behind the craft. She explained the craft will stay near the lifeguard chair during beach hours and will be stored alongside the police boat at night for easy access.

Recent improvements at the Oselka Park pavilion revealed additional work is needed, Watson told the council. The Council approved a quote from E.I. Construction for $20,700 for work, including soffit and fascia repairs and exterior and bathroom painting.

D'Amico said the first round of work had eliminated the birds nesting inside the pavilion roof.

As part of their goal to improve municipal parks, the New Buffalo Area Recreation Authority (NBARA) received a grant for work on the softball fields at Oselka Park, which was intended to include Field 3. Watson told the council that a recent evaluation of the fields had determined it would be more beneficial to instead improve Field 4 with some modifications to the plans. One of those modifications would be for the city to approve a lease agreement with NBARA for Field 4.

New Buffalo Areas Schools Superintendent Adam Bowen said changing the fields would leave room for future developments, including realigning the high school baseball field and switching the softball field to Field 4.

The council approved the lease.

Newar the end of the meeting, the council discussed vacating city right of way along East Clay Street for NBAS

On the recommendation of the Planning Commission, the council approved three site plans for residential properties. The council approved a plan for a new residential building at 103 N. Berrien Street after the owner submitted a modified driveway plan, and a plan for a residential building at 616 W. Mechanic, as well as the demolition of existing buildings at 715 W. Michigan and the construction of a new residence with attached garage and pool.

The council also passed a resolution to join the Twin Cities Area Transportation Study (TwinCATS). The organization helps member communities collaborate on projects to improve infrastructure and access federal funding.

Michigan law allows mayors and magistrates to officiate weddings. Mayor Vance Price said he was recently contacted by a couple who asked if he would perform their wedding, and he realized the city had no set fees for officiating. The council voted to establish a $25 fee, which will be deposited in the city's general fund.

The Steet Department has begun clean-up efforts. As part of this, the council approved the rental of a street sweeper to remove debris left from the winter. Watson said M-Tech's offer of $8000 for a month was significantly lower than other companies.

The City Police Department needs to update its taser inventory. Police Chief Rich Killips told the Council tasers allow police to limit risk while controlling encounters. In order to update the department's inventory, Killips said the department will need a subscription service from Axon Enterprise for $12,672 a year, which will include all supplies and training.

Councilmember Rich Knoll said he had researched Tasers and learned independent reports suggested Axon had overstated the effectiveness of their product. Killips said the Tasers reduce the use of guns while protecting officers.

The city recently requested bids for landscaping work in the downtown and at city hall. Based on the quotes that came in, Watson said Tuscan Valley Landscaping had provided the best price at $11,523. Watson said this was lower than continuing to use Nature's Way Landscaping, which has performed the service since 2019, before the scope of the work expanded.

There is nothing on this earth more to be prized than true friendship.
—Thomas Aquinas

Village council discusses next steps for water treatment

BY THERESE DONNELLY

As tests continue to show clean water, the Three Oaks Village Council needs to decide whether to cease chlorinating village water, or take steps to make the treatment permanent.

The village issued a boil water advisory in early January- the third since September 2024-after routine tests revealed the presence of bacteria in lines. After each test, water department flushed the effected lines and chlorinated the water supply, in accordance with state requirements.

The contamination is believed to be from contaminants entering the line after a water main break in late August 2024.

At the council's March 12 meeting, Water Operator in Charge Joe Fender explained the broken line had been isolated and repairs are concluded. He said the water department has been chlorinating the lines since January boil order and asked the council to determine if the treatment should continue.

Fender said if the village continues to chlorinate, they will need to obtain permission from the State of Michigan, and additional equipment will be required.

Councilmembers discussed how to proceed. Village Manager Dan Faulkner said he has experience with municipalities that permanently chlorinate their water and he prefers the village not do it. He explained that health issues are being associated with long-term chlorination. He also said over time chlorine can attach to any lead in water lines, although that can be ameliorated with phosphates.

Councilmembers discussed how to proceed. Village Manager Dan Faulkner said he has experience with municipalities that permanently chlorinate their water and he prefers the village not do it. He explained that health issues are being associated with long-term chlorination. He also said over time chlorine can attach to any lead in water lines, although that can be ameliorated with phosphates

Councilmember Becky Thomas asked if introducing phosphates could impact the wastewater lagoons, but Faulkner said they would dissipate in the system before reaching the lagoons.

Village President Steve Graziano said he was "99 percent sure" the latest efforts have resolved the water problems, but the council agreed they want to notify residents before ending the chlorination treatment. They agreed to continue with chlorination until the village has time to make the public aware of the change.

Fender said the village conducts routine tests on the water at different points in the system.

Later in the meeting, the council approved an easement at the lagoon in order to install poles for a power source for the lift station.

The council also gave approval for a change order on the access road to the lagoon. Waste Water Operator in Charge Matt Lindsey explained the ground will need undercutting to provide stability for the heavy equipment used at the lagoon.

In a follow-up from a discussion at the February meeting, Police Chief Carl Krause reported he had received quotes for a speed sign to place on the south end of the village. He recommended a battery-powered sign, explaining it would be easier to move if needed, and would not require installation of a power supply.

Krause said the data from the sign on the north end of the village could not clearly show if the sign deterred speeders, as the speed limit drops from 55 miles per hour to 25 near the sign. He also said he would not use the sign reading to issue tickets, since it is not calibrated the way detectors in patrol cars are.

Graziano, who has experience as a driving instructor, said he felt the sign served as a reminder to slow down when entering the village. Councilmember Lois Jones said she didn't see the sign as a deterrent, but felt if it reminded just "one or two people" to slow down, it was worth the purchase.

The council approved street closures for June 8, as part of the Flag Day parade route and line up. Residents along the line up area asked the council to address heavy congestion and people ignoring barricades and police instruction during Flag Day.

The council discussed a resolution to increase the rubbish and recycling annual fee to $180.20. Faulkner said this increase is paid into the village's fund to pay for unexpected rubbish costs, and the large-item pick up day in the fall.

In order to qualify for certain federal grants, the village must lift the weight restrictions for trucks traveling on Elm Street. The council approved an ordinance to amend Ordinance 31, which prohibited trucks traveling through the street, but allowed local deliveries.

Traffic will detour along Sycamore Street during construction on the Hickory Street bridge. Andrew Rudd, a civil engineer with project manager Wightman and Associates, explained the contractor plans to start after July 4, after power lines are moved and beams are fabricated.

The fabrication will require inspection at the factory for quality assurance. Rudd said this is both a requirement from the Michigan Department of Transportation, and good practice. The only bid submitted for the inspection work was for $3000 over the expected costs, but Rudd said Wightman has had good experiences previously working with the company.

The council approved the bid.

On the recommendation of Building Inspector Ed Carpenter, the council made Chauncey Hackenberg as the new Electrical Inspector.

Faulkner reported the Village would close on property at 6650 Central Drive on March 19.

He also said the regular state audit has begun, with village staff working to provide paperwork to state auditors.

In council discussion, Jones the Parks Committee has hired the firm of Fleis and Vandenbrink to draw up plans for the Chamberlain Path upgrades. She expressed frustration that the drawings have been prepared when the project consultants promised to have meetings with the community to identify desired amenities. Thomas echoed Jones' frustration, adding she was "disappointed in how this is going." Councilmember John Kramer noted discussions with the Council never included taking half the building parking lot.

At the February meeting, business owner Anne Hart asked the council if it would be possible to increase the number of seats on the DDA to further diversify the board. Councilmember Joe Hinman, who serves as Council liaison to the DDA, said the members are in favor of this change. He said the easiest way to add a member would be to remove his voting power on the DDA and bring in a new voting member. The alternative, he said, would be to pass an ordinance to change the number of members.

Graizano said he was in favor of the change as long as meetings could still make quorum.

Before the meeting ended, Graizano told councilmembers they will receive forms for Faulkner's regular evaluation.

Chikaming firefighter Miller promoted to station captain

BY FRANCESCA SAGALA

Members of the Chikaming Township Board of Trustees approved promoting firefighter Brad Miller to the station captain position of the Chikaming Township Fire Department, effective April 1, at their Thursday, March 13, meeting.

Fire chief Allen Weich had presented on the opportunity to reorganize the fire department at a previous meeting, saying that it would take a more "horizontal" structure, which would fit the "way we're currently doing things" in the department.

The opportunity for the position was presented to one of the department's two existing full-time people. Miller will serve as Weich's right hand person and oversee the department's day-to-day operations as well as fulfill other tasks, such as working with clerk Paula Dudiak.

"If I'm not around, this is the person who's going to be responsible for the fire department," Weich said.

During the recent five-to-six-year ISO Audit, Weich said that representatives who visited the township said that they sensed a lot of pride there because, out of all fire departments they visit, Chikaming's station has some of the "cleanest and best organized fire apparatus."

Board members approved Chikaming Township Supervisor David Bunte sending letters of support from the township for all Internet Service Providers that are going after funding for township parcels that were not serviced by the ROBIN Grant.

Bunte said that the county has requested that all municipalities in the county submit letters for five ISPs that are going after BEAD funding grants to fill the gaps the ROBIN Grant didn't cover throughout the county.

He said that 280 parcels, which are mainly located in little pockets up and down Red Arrow Highway, weren't covered by the grant.

An on-premises tasting room liquor control commission permit for 13213 Red Arrow Highway was approved.

Board members approved allowing police chief Todd Taylor to purchase Passport Parking Enforcement Software.

Kaitlynn Miller holds Madi as she places the badge on new station captain, dad Brad Miller

Taylor said the software program will help the department keep track of parking tickets and that those who don't pay for the tickets will be tracked down through letters and possibly be reported to the credit bureau.

The program will pay for itself through revenue generated from the tickets annually," Taylor said.

The program will provide two iPads and two little printers, when the officer runs the plate, the township-issued ticket will be prepopulated on the iPad, printed and placed on the car.

Two resolutions, one approving the submission of a $15,000, no-match AARP Grant and another for a $100,000, no-match Kubota Hometown Proud Grant, for Kohn Park were adopted.

Restated Articles of Incorporation for Medic 1 were approved. Weich, who's the chairperson on the Medic 1 Board, said that the updated articles were adopted and approved as well as bylaws.

Different funding models are being discussed, with Weich adding that the existing articles are "very specific in the way funding structures must be established." Changing the articles will allow for the Medic 1 Board to "work together to develop a different funding structure for the entity."

Board members approved Weich attending the Mental Wellness Conference in Traverse City.

Board members approved renewing the Cooperative Mutual Aid Agreement with the MI DNR.

Weich said the state DNR office has a cooperative agreement between local fire departments that allows the necessary equipment to be sent down if a large-scale event, such as wildfire, were to occur in a municipality.

The DNR can also put out requests for assistance for a municipality to help with something that's being fought in a nearby municipality; however, municipalities aren't under obligation to help if asked.

Board members adopted a resolution on the Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 2025-26.

Estimated township revenues for the township's general fund included an allocated milage of .9863 mills, shall total $1,854,601

Estimated township road maintenance fund revenues, including a millage of .9676 mills, shall total $819,464

Estimated public safety fund revenues, with a millage of 1.9 mills, shall total $1,733,517.

Estimated library revenues, including a millage of .3461 mills, shall total $293,113.

Estimated building fund revenues shall total $335,391.

Estimated water fund revenues shall total $2,881,550 and estimated sewer fund revenues shall total $2,516.050.

"The Chikaming Township Board shall cause to be levied and collected in the general property tax and all real and personal property within the township on the current tax roll amount equal to 4.2 mills set forth by the tax allocation board," the resolution states.

In a 4-1 vote, board members approved Janet Henderson and Natalie Brown filling the two empty seats on the Planning Commission. With each having a three-year term expiring March 31, 2028.

Board members adopted a resolution to join the Twin Cities Area Transportation Study (TwinCATS). Bunte said that joining the organization will allow the township to possibly get TAP funding for trails, nonmotorized paths, sidewalks and anything that's transportation related.

MOTEL ROOM SET ABLAZE

A man is accused of setting his Michigan City area motel room on fire.

Calvin Kinney, 50, is charged in La Porte Superior Court 1 with Level 4 felony arson.

The fire on March 13 happened at Microtel Inn on 400 North near U.S. 421 and Interstate 94.

La Porte County Police said smoke was coming from his second floor room but Kinney refused to open the door and used a mattress to barricade it shut.

Eventually, Kinney, who had set fire to some bedding material he bunched together in the middle of the room, was taken into custody after the door was kicked open, according to court documents.

Coolspring Township Assistant Fire Chief Warren Smith said fire damage was contained to the room but many other rooms suffered smoke and water damage.

The motel with more than 40 guests was evacuated, forcing those people to go elsewhere for lodging.

Smith said he wasn't sure when the motel will be able to reopen.

The Michigan City man was being held in the La Porte County Jail on $20,000 cash only bond.

He could face anywhere from a two to 12-year sentence. — STAN MADDUX

From the Bleachers

COLUMN BY KURT MARGGRAF IN CHICAGO

April 25th is the next big date for the Chicago Bears and the National Football League.

Ironically, the draft takes place in Green Bay, home of the Bears long time rivals, the Packers.

This draft, the first under the Ben Johnson regime, is extremely important for the Bears. The new coach is a breath of fresh air. The team traded for, and signed a slew of veterans and free agents.

A productive draft seems like it will push the team into playoff contention. I really don't think that I have been more excited about the team's potential since 1985/1986, the Bears winning Super Bowl season.

Bear down!

The real story this week is baseball.

The Cubs take on the Dodgers both Tuesday and Wednesday in Tokyo, Japan, a week before the rest of the teams begin their seasons.

There are so many reasons to be excited about these games, so let's talk about a few of them.

First of all, the beginning of the season signifies the beginning of the end of winter. Because of the snow on Sunday and the threat of more snow later in the week, the promise of spring/summer is even more welcome than usual.

Next, the Dodgers are heavily favored to be the best team in baseball, and the Cubs are playoff contenders, so the games should be well played and evenly contested. Each team has star players from Japan and as a matter of fact, Tuesdays matchup will pit Japanese pitchers from both teams and the crowds interest and enthusiasm should reach a fever's pitch.

So if you're a baseball fan and an early riser (the opening day game begins at 6:00 a.m. ET), so get ready to be entertained.

Possibly, for some of you, I misspoke when I said that baseball was the big story of the week.

I momentarily forgot about March Madness.

Every year, whether or not I have paid a lot of attention to the regular season, college basketball takes center stage for millions of people.

The games are exciting and almost always produce big upsets.

Many years ago, when I was very young, I went to Las Vegas to watch the opening weekend of the tournament. With so many games being played at once, point spreads, and so many other betting opportunities, the crowd at the sports book at Caesars Palace would be oohing and aahing every trip down the court.

The anticipation, followed by the joy or frustration, was a fascinating look at human emotions. So pick a sport, enjoy all of its little nuances so that when the game is played you feel a connection to it, fill out your brackets, and see if you can beat the pros (or a random puppy) and have a fun week.

Theodor Roosevelt said, "When you're at the end of your rope, tie a knot and hold on."

Be kind. Talk to you next week. Peace, love, and happiness.

The only real progress lies in learning to be wrong all alone. *— Albert Camus*

Public Notice:
Your right to know!

PUBLIC NOTICES are an effective way for agencies of government to make official announcements.

State law requires these notices be printed in newspapers.

Nearly two-thirds of active Michigan voters* would be concerned if government placed these notices on websites because important information could be concealed from the public.

* EPIC-MRA 2011

MPA MICHIGAN PRESS ASSOCIATION

This newspaper supports your right to know.

Caribbean charm takes Manhattan

SANDALS RESORTS DAZZLES

TEXT & PHOTOS BY ALEXANDER FATOUROS

The Hall des Lumières transformed into a vibrant slice of the Caribbean on Tuesday evening, March 11th, 2025, as Adam Stewart, Executive Chairman of Sandals Resorts International, hosted an exclusive, invitation-only gathering. Guests were transported into a world of tropical delights and warm hospitality. The event, held at 49 Chambers Street, offered New York's movers and shakers, celebrities, and influencers a memorable night of exotic flavors and island magic.

From the moment guests checked in with the welcoming team from Anchor Communications, the atmosphere exuded Caribbean charm. The "Made of Caribbean" launch event, a global advertising campaign by Leo Burnett, featured a delectable spread of Caribbean-inspired canapés and cocktails, tantalizing taste buds and setting the stage for a truly memorable experience.

Adding an element of architectural grandeur to the experience, the historically significant Hall des Lumières became a canvas for immersive art installations, rendering a sensory escape to a tropical paradise. Subtly placed palm trees enhanced the vibrant, dynamic light show, crafting a whimsical atmosphere.

Adam Stewart, a most gracious host, shared the inspiring story of his father, Hon. Gordon "Butch" Stewart, the founder of Sandals Resorts. He recounted the journey of building a hospitality empire that now graces numerous Caribbean nations: Jamaica, the Bahamas, Saint Lucia, Grenada, Barbados, Antigua, Turks and Caicos, Curaçao, and Saint Vincent. The story resonated deeply, a testament to the power of unwavering perseverance and bold vision.

Live costumed dancers and a vibrant DJ set by Zuri Marley, granddaughter of Bob Marley, infused the space with festive energy, fostering engaging conversations among the diverse crowd. Notable attendees, including Fern Mallis, creator of New York Fashion Week, supermodel Carol Alt, "The Bachelor's" Matt James, Kelly Bensimon, Nancy Cronkite, and actors Lorraine Toussaint and Amir Arison, all of whom enhanced the Caribbean-inspired soirée.

Beyond the exquisite flavors and vibrant energy, the event served as a testament to Sandals Resorts' dedication to crafting exceptional experiences, demonstrating their dedication to hospitality beyond the islands. Sandals Resorts is also deeply committed to the well-being of the Caribbean communities they serve, actively engaging in humanitarian efforts through the Sandals Foundation. In the heart of the New York City's concrete jungle, a touch of Caribbean warmth proved transformative.

Fern Mallis, creator of New York Fashion Week

A festive celebration marked the launch of Made of Caribbean, courtesy of all-inclusive luxury resort brand, Sandals Resorts

A celebration of culture and hospitality

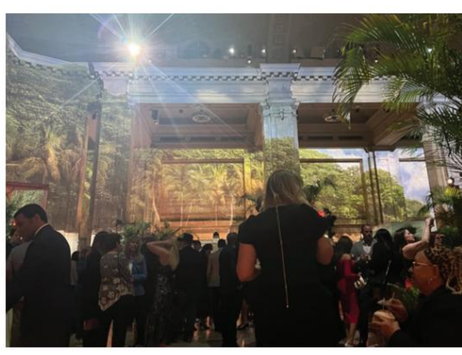
Made of Caribbean DJ set by Zuri Marley, granddaughter of Jamaican singer-songwriter Bob Marley

A splash of Caribbean color and flair

Caribbean Charm, Sandals Resort

Sandals Resorts' Made of Caribbean launch party

An eclectic mix of influential figures, socialites, and artistic minds



The Hall des Lumières evoked a tropical paradise

Sandals Resorts' Made of Caribbean launch party

Township board adopts short-term rental ordinance amendment

APPROVES ADDITIONAL MARIJUANA ESTABLISHMENT

BY FRANCESCA SAGALA

Members of the New Buffalo Township Board adopted a resolution that adopts an ordinance to amend Chapter 332 of the township code regulating rental property to allow only one dwelling per parcel as a short-term rental at their Monday, March 17, meeting.

New Buffalo Township Supervisor Michelle Heit said the township has been seeing more people who are wanting multiple rental units on one parcel and that the amendment was recommended by Estelle Brinkman, building and zoning administrator.

"She said we'll have some that are kind of nonconforming and grandfathered in but certainly moving forward we'd only allow one dwelling unit per parcel for short term rentals," she said.

A planned unit development for Driftwood Union Pier LLC at Community Hall Road in Union Pier, which will consist of 15 homes, a maintenance building, trash enclosures, a pool with a structure for a restroom and a mechanical room, was approved.

New Buffalo Township will be hosting its first Earth Day Challenge Tuesday, April 22.

Trustee Howard Males said that the idea came about when a young resident, Chase Churchill, brought up concerns about littering around the community, particularly on the roadway with the opening of dispensaries.

"The board discussed the possibility of how to encourage local establishments to safely keep their properties and adjacent roadways clean," Males said.

The township will provide safety vests to all participating businesses. Those who'd like to take part should contact township supervisor Michelle Heit by April 4 at mheit@newbuffalotownship.org or 269-469-1011, ext. 103.

A photo should be sent of the trash that's been collected. At the May township meeting, the business that's gathered the most trash will be announced.

Board members adopted a resolution that states the township supports and formally requests inclusion in Twin City Area Transportation Study. Heit said that the township has some urbanized areas after the census so it can be part of TwinCATS, which will open funding opportunities.

A grant application to The Pokagon Fund for $7,500 for school supplies for Public Safety Day was approved.

An amended employee handbook to make it compliant with new ESTA laws was approved, as well as a fire department ESTA policy.

Board members approved hiring the following parks department seasonal employees: Sam Wendel-Suppa for $16 per hour and Ethan Lijewski, Drew Bowen and Vaughn Nikkel for $15.50 per hour.

A step increase of $0.50 per hour for deputy treasurer Sarah Rutkoskie effective March 23 was approved.

Board members approved outdoor assembly permits for the following: Timber Cannabis Co. from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. April 4 and 5, Flowerbowl from 9 a.m. to 8:45 p.m. April 20, Cannabis Club from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. April 19 and 20, Trap Stars from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. April 20 and Dispo from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. April 19 and 20.

Heit said the dispensaries go through a process when applying for the permits, which includes a review from the fire chief and code enforcement officer of the site plan

She added that Lt. Thad Chartrand is working on having an additional deputy present on the 4/20 cannabis holiday and possibly April 19 as well.

Board members granted final approval of an SLU to Patterson Processing LLC to operate an adult use marijuana retail establishment at 19001 U.S. Highway 12.

A two-month extension of preliminary approval for Peter Bobeck to operate an adult-use marijuana establishment at property owned by Jerry Looney at 19563 U.S. 12 until May 17 was approved.

Board members approved granting a two-month extension of preliminary approval of an SLU to Stash Ventures at 19818 M-239 to operate an adult-use marijuana establishment. From there, this extension will go until July 3, with an in-person update then.

The fourth pay estimate to PayJay Inc. of $36,793.25 for the U.S. 12 water sewer project was approved.

To Your Health

COLUMN BY KAREN EDWARDS ND

YOUR LEGS ARE YOUR ENGINES THAT DRIVE YOUR BODY

Many older folks will lose their ability to walk, get weakness in their legs, have instability, loss of balanceand are at a higher risk of falls. Falls are the leading cause of injury death in older adults. Every year, millions of adults over 60 suffer falls and many never recover. These falls aren't just clumsy accidents, they often are the result of weak legs and poor balance.

Think of your legs as the foundation of your house. If the foundation is weak, the whole structure is at risk. By protecting and strengthening your legs, you are protecting yourself from one of the biggest threats to your independence. Your legs literally carry you through life.

Your legs have some of the strongest muscles in your body. Quadriceps, hamstrings and glutes. These are powerhouses. When they are strong, they take stress of your joints and reduce your risk of injury and help you maintain proper posture. When they weaken, knees and hips take on more stress leading to chronic pain and arthritis. Your lower back will compensate leading to discomfort and loss of balance. Your overall mobility will decline making it difficult to stay active and independent.

Strong legs are also important for your cardiovascular health. Your calf muscles pump blood back up to your heart with every step you take. This is especially important as you age because poor circulation issues can lead to a host of problems. From swollen ankles to blood clots. By keeping your leg muscles moving and strong, you are helping your heart improve blood flow and reducing your risk of heart disease.

Interestingly, the most surprising benefit of strong legs are their impact on your brain. Studies show that leg strength is closely linked to cognitive health. Older folks with stronger legs performed better on memory and problem-solving tests. The muscles from your legs send signals to your brain that stimulate the production of new neurons. In other words, strong legs can literally help keep your brain young. It is obvious that people with strong legs live a healthier more productive happier life as they age. Strong legs are a better predictor of aging than any other bio marker, including blood pressure or cholesterol levels. The reason of course is that strong legs are an indicator of an active lifestyle. One that keeps your body and mind in peak condition.

The good news is, you can fight back. Proper nutrition, exercise and lifestyle habits are vital. What you eat plays a huge role in muscle strength. Older adults need more essential amino acids than younger people. Pair this with omega 3 fatty acids. These reduce inflammation that protects joints and muscles. Antioxidants like berries and nuts fight oxidative stress. Processed foods are responsible for accelerated aging.

Walking regularly is one of the greatest exercises for your legs. A mini rebounder or jumping jacks are great exercises for your leg muscles and move the lymph. We age because we stop jumping and skipping.

Don't forget to hydrate. Your muscles are about 75% water. Even mild hydration can lead to weakness & fatigue. By taking care of the health of your legs, you are taking care of your future self.

Karen Edwards is a board-Certified Dr. of Naturopathy, Master Herbalist, Vegan and Raw food Chef. She is owner of Holistic Alternatives in New Buffalo and La Porte for over 25 years.

Charges filed in serious injury alcohol related crash

BY STAN MADDUX

A suspected drunk driver heading home from Michigan is facing potential time in prison for causing a multiple vehicle crash that left a man badly hurt.

Rogeilo Huerta-Tomas, 19, was recently charged in La Porte Superior Court 1 with Level 5 felony operating a vehicle while intoxicated causing serious bodily injury.

According to court documents, the La Porte man on the night of December 22 was southbound on Indiana 39 when he veered into the opposite lane to pass a vehicle from behind.

He was not able to return to his lane before colliding with an oncoming vehicle at County Road 800 North, police said.

The vehicle he struck was hit in the rear by a car operated by Trent Kaercher, 26, also of La Porte.

According to court documents, Tomas, who had an alleged blood alcohol level of .111-percent, was operating his vehicle without the headlights on.

Kaercher, who sustained the most serious injuries in the crash, had to have three plates and six screws placed inside his fractured left hip, court documents showed.

Tomas could face an up to six year sentence on the OWI allegations.

He's also charged with never receiving a driver's license, a Class C misdemeanor.

According to court documents, Tomas told investigators he was heading back home after visiting a friend in Michigan.

Tomas was not charged sooner because of the wait involved in receiving the blood alcohol test results, authorities said.

Audrey, portrayed by Deonna McGrew and Seymour, portrayed by Henry Gadiel, handle the influx of business

Seymour, portrayed by Henry Gadiel, is subjected to dental treatment by Orin, Aaron Illescas-Villa

Audrey, portrayed by Deonna McGrew, sings Somewhere That's Green

Deonna McGrew, Henry Gadiel and Addison Lamport discover Audrey II

Orin Scrivello, portrayed by Aaron Illescas-Villa, makes his entrance

The Urchins, protrayed by Ella hart, Angelina Bryk and Bianca Illescas-Villa, gather around Henry Gadiel

Seymour, portrayed by Henry Gadiel, faces off against Audrey II, portrayed by Samantha Newton

The cast celebrates the relationship of Seymour and Audrey

The cast sings an ensemble number

'Little Shop of Horrors' rocks the New Buffalo stage

BY FRANCESCA SAGALA

The horror comedy rock musical that traces the tale of a naïve florist shop worker, who raises a plant that feeds on human blood and flesh, came alive onstage at the New Buffalo Performing Arts Center during the Blue Bison Theatre Players' production of "Little Shop of Horrors," which took place Friday, Saturday and Sunday, March 14-16.

The musical starred Deonna McGrew, Henry Gadiel, Samantha Newton, Aaron Illescas-Villa, Addison Lamport, Ella Hart, Angelina Bryk, Bianca Illescas-Villa, Han Tannehill, Graham Rodgers, Riley Castle-Brow and Charlie Hart.

The ensemble cast starred Katiah Vosberg, Shawna Yech, Rogers, Leana Drexler, Mackenzie Luehring, Tannehill, Hart and Castle-Brow.

The musical was directed by Chris Beushausen and assistant director Madison Dodge. Set designer and technical director was Dwayne Whitmeyer. Costume designer was Deb Rancatore. Lighting designer was Lloyd Whitmyer. Sound engineer was Jonny Reinhardt.

Han Tannehill (right) discusses what to do with Audrey II's cuttings

The cast sings the final number, Don't Eat the Plants

The cast sings Skid Row

Seymour, portrayed by Henry Gadiel, prepares to feed Audrey, portrayed by Deonna McGrew, to Audrey II

The cast closes out with the final number, Don't Eat the Plants

The cast sings Don't Feed the Plants

The cast sings Dentist

The cast takes a bow

Local watched historic SpaceX Launch

BY STAN MADDUX

A former elected official in the area watched SpaceX go up to bring home the two astronauts stranded on the International Space Station for nine months.

Rich Mrozinski of Rolling Prairie, Indiana, viewed the launch from his second home in Florida about 15 miles from Cape Canaveral where SpaceX went up on Friday, March 14.

The two astronauts, Nick Hague and Suni Williams, splashed down Tuesday evening in the Gulf America near Tallahassee on the opposite side of Florida from where Mrozinski lives during the winter.

Mrozinski said he witnessed SpaceX shoot toward the heavens with practically a bird's eye view from the balcony of his condominium along the Atlantic Ocean.

"We watched them leave to go bring those astronauts back. Thank God they finally got back home," he said.

Mrozinski served two tours of duty in the Vietnam War.

After returning from the war in the early 1970's, Mrozinski said he was assigned to what's now called Patrick Space Force base near Cape Canaveral as a staff sergeant whose job was connected to the Apollo 16 mission to the moon.

He was responsible for getting confidential information on documents coming in on teletype machines into the hands of the proper authorities.

"A lot of complicated, confidential stuff. It was all pretty exciting," he said.

Mrozinski said he met the Apollo 16 astronauts John W. Young, Charles M. Duke, Jr. and Thomas K. Mattingly, II, while they were in training and was on the beach about a mile away when they launched from Cape Canaveral into orbit.

A few months later, Mrozinski came home as a civilian and went to work for NIPSCO where he served as a lineman until retiring over a decade ago.

Given his military experience and connections to the space program, Mrozinski said he was emotional watching the once stranded astronauts emerge from their space capsule after returning to earth.

He described his feelings as both proud and happy.

"It's an experience of a lifetime they'll never forget and they'll be heroes for now on. It's very cool. Very cool, indeed," he said.

Mrozinski said he has also watched from the balcony of his condominium dozens of other launches during the day and night for different missions like sending satellites into orbit in recent months.

"I've been up at one o'clock in the morning to watch them. I just never get enough of it," he said.

Mrozinski after serving two terms as a La Porte County Commissioner decided not to run for reelection in November.

He also previously served two terms on the La Porte County Council.

Arrest follows Amtrak train collision

BY STAN MADDUX

A New Buffalo area man was arrested following a collision between an Amtrak train and the trailer of his landscaping truck.

Rodolfo Sanchez-Pacheco, 48, is charged in La Porte Superior Court 4 with Class C misdemeanor driver without ever receiving a driver's license.

The crash happened Tuesday about 5 p.m. along U.S. 12 at the crossing with Old Grand Beach Road just outside the Michigan state line.

According to Michigan City Police, Pacheco was at a stop sign waiting for traffic to clear so he could turn onto U.S. 12.

Police said the trailer attached to the back end of his truck was resting on the tracks when the crossing arms came down for a fast moving Amtrak train. Fortunately, there were no injuries, police said.

The train was temporarily disabled from the crash while flying debris caused by the impact damaged a second vehicle at the crossing.

Pacheco could face an up to 60 day jail sentence and maximum $500 fine.

LOCAL INTELLIGENCE
New Buffalo Times
— SINCE 1942 —

OBITUARIES

Keith Daniel Kelly
1965-2025

Keith Daniel Kelly, 60, of Benton Harbor, passed suddenly, Thursday, March 06, 2025.

His life began February 1, 1965 in Michigan City, Indiana, the second youngest of eight children born to James and Josephine Kelly.

Keith loved his mother and cherished animals. Keith worked proudly as a mold setter until the factory closed. Afterwards he worked at any and all assorted jobs. After high school he continued his education at night and earned an associate's degree. Keith was a skilled tool-man and loved working with small tools.

Keith will be greatly missed by family and friends. He is survived by his beloved mother; ex-wife, Sherri Jesko, three sisters, Diane (Ralph) Barr of La Porte, Indiana, Linda King of Three Oaks, Karen (Frank) Ripley of Three Oaks, three brothers, Joseph (Cheryl) Kelly of Michigan City, Indiana, Richard Kelly and Andrew Kelly both of New Buffalo, and a host of nieces, nephews, and cousins.

He was preceded in death by his father and one brother Russell.

The family will observe a private remembrance.

Arrangements have been entrusted to Wagner Family Funerals Pobocik Chapel, Three Oaks. Please share a memory or a message online at www.wagnercares.com.

Cynthia Sue Priest
1955-2025

Cynthia Sue Priest, 69, of Sawyer, went home, Friday, March 14, 2025.

Her life began December 13, 1955 in Appleton, Wisconsin, the eldest of four children born to Gerald and Helen Hauser. She married Kenneth Priest in Menasha, Wisconsin, October 6, 1979.

Cyndy, was a springtime flower, that blossomed with the morning sun. She loved the warmth of the earth and all things nature. Cyndy was bright, beautiful, and compassionate. She had a zest and love for watching both her grandchildren and her gardens grow. A home for those that didn't have one, opened to all without judgement. She would fill their hearts and their belly. To know her is to be loved.

Cyndy will be greatly missed by family and friends. She is survived by her beloved husband of forty-five years, three daughters, Becca (Brian) Karsten of Byron Center, Liz (Adam) Walker of Bridgman, Emily (Jesse) Frye of Holland; one son, Andy (Heather) Priest of Byron Center; seven grandchildren, Lena Walker, Brant Walker, Ellory Karsten, Isla Frye, Alden Priest, Blake Walker, Hazie Jo Frye; one sister, Mary Cochran of California; two brothers, Tony (Jane) Hauser of Florida, Jon (Noelle) Hauser of Wisconsin; and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, and life-long family friends.

She was preceded in death by her parents.

Family and friends will gather for a visitation Friday, March 21, 2025 in Wagner

Family Funerals, 106 East Ash Street, Three Oaks Michigan 49128 from 5:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. A memorial service will be held in her honor on Saturday, March 22, 2025 in Trinity Lutheran Church, 5791 Sawyer Road, Sawyer, Michigan 49125 from 10:00 a.m. until time of service at 11:00 a.m.

The family prefers contributions in memory of Cyndy be made to Trinity Lutheran Church of Sawyer, 5791 Sawyer Road, Sawyer, Michigan 49125, to Sarett Nature Center, 2300 North Benton Center Road, Benton Harbor, Michigan 49022, or to Cure JM Foundation (TEAM ELLORY), P.O. Box 45768, Baltimore, Maryland 21297-5768.

Arrangements have been entrusted to Wagner Family Funerals Pobocik Chapel, Three Oaks. Please share a memory or a message online www.wagnercares.com.

Hundreds of children learn about food production

BY STAN MADDUX

About 800 grade school kids from La Porte County learned a typical cow produces about 100 pounds of mile per day and watched as wheat was grinded into flour.

That just scratched the surface of what they were taught about food production and how it gets to their dinner tables during the annual Ag Days, an event hosted by La Porte County Farm Bureau on March 12 and 13.

La Porte County Farm Bureau members were the instructors at more than a dozen portable classrooms inside and outside the Community Building at the La Porte County Fairgrounds where school children in buses arrived during the morning and afternoon sessions.

A combine and other major pieces of farm machinery along with live farm animals were also brought in as a learning experience for the children.

Dairy Farmer Frank Minich told kids from various schools that a cow begins producing milk about two years after they're born and drinks a standard sized "bathtub full of water" every day.

He also informed them calves weigh about 100 pounds at birth and are given powdered milk mixed with water to drink for about the first two months.

"They drink about a half-gallon of that twice a day," he said.

He also showed them clear packages of corn and pellets containing vitamins and minerals given to calves for them to eat as they get older.

Minich's farm just south of La Porte has about 800 dairy cows.

Paul Herrold, a grain farmer on about 3,000 acres near Westville, gave lessons about corn, soybeans and wheat.

During an energy packed question and answer session, he used an electric powered hand-held grinder about the size of a cake bowl to demonstrate how wheat turns into flour.

He also explained how flour is used to make things like bread and donuts.

"What am I going to get when I grind this wheat? Flour. Exactly," he said.

Retired dairy farmer, Luann Troxel, stood in front of two newborn calves while discussing things like why drinking milk is good for the body.

"That's why milk is a great product because it gives you protein and calcium naturally," she said.

Tim Bauer, a teacher at the Renaissance Academy, seemed just as interested as his students, if not, more from what he was learning.

"It's great we got to see cows at two days old. I didn't know cows were so big after two days. I think this is wonderful," he said.

Alayna Pol, a fourth grade teacher at Hailmann Elementary School in La Porte, said her students seemed most surprised about how pickles and ketchup are made along with the use of drones and robotics nowadays in agriculture.

"They're very interested, engaged and asking some great questions. I think this is fantastic," she said.

La Porte County Farm Bureau President Mark Parkman said Ag Days dates back to 1984 when it was hosted by the La Porte Row Crop Food Producers organization.

He said it was held annually until the COVID-19 pandemic but since has resumed as a yearly event teaching children about food production and the work involved in getting it to their dinner tables.

There were also goats, rabbits and a miniature horse children could reach out and pet during their visit to the event.

Parkman, who raises corn, soybeans, hay, wheat and cattle, said La Porte County Farm Bureau with help from the row crop group now puts on the event.

"It's a pretty good way for kids to learn about where they're food comes from," he said.

IT'S ALWAYS YOUR LUCKY DAY AT SONNY D'S

SONNYDS.COM | (269) 586-3605

lobster.

Timothy's

WEDNESDAY IS LOBSTER NIGHT!
1.25lb Live Maine Lobster with Drawn Butter, Roasted Red Potatoes and Coleslaw.
$19.99

CALL 269-469-0900 FOR RESERVATIONS
16409 Red Arrow Highway • Union Pier, Michigan
WWW.TIMOTHYSRESTAURANT.COM

Door opens to continue historic church restoration

BY STAN MADDUX

Approval has been granted to further the renovation of a century old house of worship in Michigan City.

It's happening at St. Stanislaus Kostka Catholic Parish on the city's north end.

The upcoming work includes restoring the twin bell towers on the historic church building at 1506 Washington St.

The Michigan City Board of Public Works and Safety on Monday, March 17, granted a request from the contractor, Ziolkowski Construction of South Bend, for a street closure to start restoring the badly deteriorated columns in each of the bell towers.

A crane will be placed in the street to reach the columns with a boom and bring down one of the columns beyond restoring to replace it.

The board approved closing Ann St. from Washington to Franklin streets beginning April 7.

The street will be closed from 7 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. on Monday through Friday for two weeks.

According to the church website, the brunt of the project is restoring the bell towers and brick façade of the landmark building that took 10 years to construct beginning in 1916.

The labor was provided by members of the congregation, who also put in the foundation believed to have been done by hand.

The plan related to the masonry includes tuck pointing the bricks of the bell towers with mortar of the original color to preserve the integrity and historical beauty of the structures.

An ongoing fund raising drive by the church is paying for the restoration.

A Writer's Life...

DURING THE GOLDEN AGE OF TELEVISION ANIMATION

BY JACK OLESKER

And then I get 'the call'

I'm bleary-eyed from a mid-week evening of clubbingto fill my time. Los Angeles can be a dangerous place, even more so if you're 'successful'. I've got a way to go before I'd call myself that, but I'm moving toward it.

I climb from bed at ten on Thursday morning and feel my way to the kitchen. I start coffee and head to the shower. The phone rings like an icepick through my neck. It's Lori. This is my first call from her in weeks, which is okay. DIC has been moving to new digs and I can only imagine how busy she's been. She says, "Jean and Andy want to see you."

Immediately, my head clears. I'm totally alert. This is different. They both want to see me. Lori tells me to come to the new studio and gives me the address.

Whatever is happening, it's happening fast. I'm guessing it's not all just because of Care Bears, though that's clearly a part of it and I feel good that I'm in on the news.

I blast through my shower, pull on jeans and a sweatshirt and head out. The new studio is three blocks from the old studio. It's half a block long, the windows tinted. I walk in. It's dark, subdued, all business – a long way from DIC's homey former studio-over-a-beauty-shop.

It's huge, packed with artists, producers, directorsworking. I see artists creating sketches of The Littles, others drawing The Get Along Gang characters. I stop by another workstation where I see sketches of Inspector Gadget. I'd learn that DIC series is already airing. I remind myself to start watching more children's programming on TV – a good idea since I am writing for children's television.

I see Lori in an office and she beckons.

Lori's first floor office is organized chaos, papers everywhere. When she asks what I think of the new studio, I say, "It's big."

I ask if she's going to fill me in and she says Jean and Andy will. Then she sends me to meet with Jean up on the second floor.

A walkway and offices extend around the second floor, offering a view of artists' and directors' cubicles below, all working feverishly. Jean's office is glassed in, like his old office over the beauty salon was. It's neat and tidy, like Jean himself. He's relaxed, smiling as I walk in. He moves into what would be one of the shortest meetings I'd ever have with him. He says DIC is going to be producing a lot of new series. Then he tells me I need to buy a computer so I have the right tools for my writing. I say, "Okay."

The meeting over, Jean sends me to Andy, two offices down.

Andy's office is more like Lori's – appearing disorganized and overwhelming, which is illusionary. From what I know of him, Andy's always organized and is neveroverwhelmed.

Today he's wearing a custom-tailored olive green suit, an expensive, starched cream-colored dress shirt, a thin lime green leather tie and matching lime green-framed eyeglasses. He greets me warmly. "Jackie! How areyou?!"

'Jackie'? I think 'He wants something' and, biding my time, I say, "Fine."

I don't have a chance to sit because Andy stands with, "I want you to meet someone." And then we're walking around the second floor walkway, directors and artists below glancing up at us. I wonder what they're thinking, seeing me walking with Andy Heyward...

Jack Olesker's career in the entertainment industry spans over four decades. He has served as a story editor in L.A. as well as president of a motion picture and television company in Chennai, India. His writing ranges from Mighty Morphin Power Rangers, Care Bears and Hello Kitty's Furry Tale Theater to documentaries and horror novels and murder mysteries for adults.

HOROSCOPE

MARCH 20-26, 2025

AS INTERPRETED BY SANDY "STAR" BENDT

ARIES MARCH 21—APRIL 19

Reconnect with yourself and open up to sharing your talents and gifts with people. This is the time to embrace what distinguishes you from others and embrace it as a gift rather than something you need to keep hidden. Harness your power and use it to further your financial standings.

TAURUS APRIL 20—MAY 20

A lot is shifting for Taurus and the things you identify with or feel are important to your life may undergo some revisions. It's important to be flexible and open, and release attachments to physical items. Some of your fundamental likes and dislikes will be modified. Be prepared to change.

GEMINI MAY 21—JUNE 21

This is a good week to go inward and get in touch with your goals and desires. Any modifications you can make that will align your inner desires with your career will increase your productivity and relationships with coworkers. The real happiness happens when you're true to yourself.

CANCER JUNE 22—JULY 22

Even though work and household obligations are beckoning, you will be feeling the need to explore or get away from rigid routines this week. Make a commitment with yourself to be with friends and get out more, or get together to discuss unusual topics or study historical happenings.

LEO JULY 23—AUGUST 22

Your perceptions and gut instincts will be very accurate and even though you will be feeling very secretive, there is a need to be more forthcoming with others. Take the initiative to balance the power dimensions in your dealings with others. Take more control and avoid being passive.

VIRGO AUGUST 23—SEPTEMBER 22

You will be bringing a lot out into the open now and exposing others to the truth, which may not be very comfortable for them but necessary for the changes that are coming in. You will have a strong ability to pinpoint where weaknesses are and what can be done to strengthen or modify them.

LIBRA SEPTEMBER 23—OCTOBER 22

This is a great week to get more involved in your relationships. Whether you get engaged or just take that next step towards exclusivity, be sure to be very clear about where you want the relationship to end up or what goals you would like to accomplish together. Share your hopes and dreams.

SCORPIO OCTOBER 23—NOVEMBER 21

You may be a bit stubborn or bull headed this week and will not want to bend on issues surrounding the home or family, but it's time to embrace a new approach to domestic issues. Tough habits and long-standing routines may be hard to break but you can forge a new and more efficient path now.

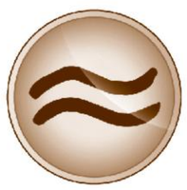
SAGITTARIUS NOVEMBER 22—DECEMBER 21

This is a good week to reconnect with family and deepen emotional connections with them. It's important you stay true to your uniqueness and are open with others about your feelings and opinions. By being honest about your observations, you will maintain your individuality.

CAPRICORN DECEMBER 22—JANUARY 19

Things could get very dramatic now and you could be part of the mix of craziness but there is real value in the things you are saying or doing. By being more direct or confrontational you will definitely rock the boat, but you will also clear the air and get everything out in the open.

AQUARIUS JANUARY 20—FEBRUARY 18



You will feel much more at ease with your living situation or familial surroundings now. It's like you finally found where you fit into the picture or where to draw the boundaries for a more comfortable experience when dealing with family. Any issues with siblings can be healed.

PISCES FEBRUARY 19—MARCH 20

The situation this week will not only bring you more confidence and security but will also make you more sensitive and aware of the effect you have on others. There may be some things about yourself you were not aware of or were in denial about but you will feel strengthened by it.

If you can dream it, you can do it. — Enzo Ferrari

THE BENDT SHOVEL
Perennial Garden Maintenance
Sandra Bendt
(219) 874-2269

Sudoku

Fill in the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains the numbers 1 through 9.

8								
9		3	5					
	5	7						3
6								
	8		4				5	
				6				8
3	7			2				9
	2			9	7			6
			8		5	4		2

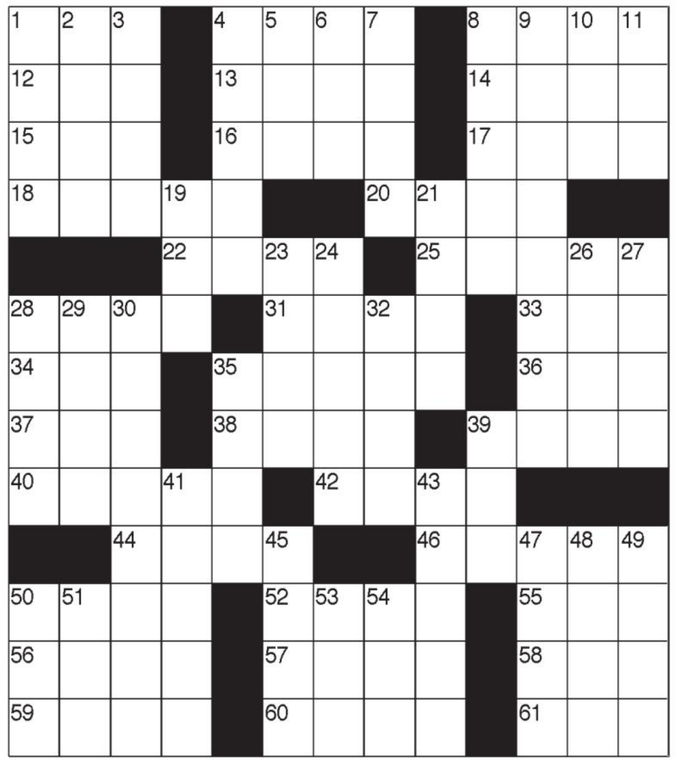
CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS

1 Fiddler crab genus
4 S. Afr. language
8 Water (pref.)
12 Computer chip
13 Fetish
14 Musical instrument (brass)
15 Stray
16 Sayings (suf.)
17 Bird
18 Menotti hero
20 Reimbursed
22 Substantial
25 Rice bran
28 Beer ingredient
31 Philistine city
33 Soul or spirit (Fr.)
34 Arrival (abbr.)
35 Spread, as gossip
36 Birthplace of Constantine
37 Yale student
38 Gain
39 Eight days after feast
40 Santa's reindeer
42 Old
44 Thunderfish
46 Music for nine
50 Boor
52 Rhine tributary
55 Amer. Automobile Assn. (abbr.)
56 Predicate
57 Heddles of a loom
58 Receipt (abbr.)
59 Prow
60 Facile
61 "Lady of the Lake" outlaw

DOWN

1 Fertilizer ingredient
2 Bulblike stem
3 W. Indian hog plum
4 Fine linen
5 Arab. garment
6 Own (Scot.)
7 Eucalyptus secretion
8 Heart auricle
9 Arc
10 Where (Lat.)
11 Mulberry of India
19 Hours (abbr.)
21 Malay law
23 Taj Mahal site
24 Love of Petrarch
26 Bowfin
27 Tax
28 This one (Lat.)
29 Fillet
30 Yellow
32 Criticize
35 Second brightest star
39 Jap. celerylike plant
41 Same (Lat.)
43 Opponent
45 Carplike fish
47 Matgrass
48 Apiece
49 Braz. armadillo
50 Television channel
51 Buddhist column
53 Antiaircraft artillery (abbr.)
54 Indian dance drama



Charges in motel stabbing of husband

BY STAN MADDUX

A woman is accused of stabbing of her husband in the chest in their motel room outside Michigan City.

Heather Kist, 30, of La Porte is charged in La Porte Superior Court 1 with the stabbing March 6 at Dunes Inn near Franklin Street and Interstate 94.

According to court documents, the man and woman after a night drinking fell asleep but later got into an argument when he confronted her for allegedly using drugs after she woke up.

At one point, Kist allegedly grabbed a knife from inside the man's boot and began waving it around while yelling until stabbing him in the chest.

According to court documents, she drove him to nearby Franciscan Health and left.

Police said the victim had an artery close to his heart punctured.

Despite his internal bleeding, he managed to speak to investigators while nurses kept constant pressure on the wound to control his blood loss prior to surgery, police said.

Police said Kist was arrested two days later at a motel in Knox.

She could face anywhere from a three to 16-year sentence on the Level 3 felony charge of aggravated battery.

SERVICE DIRECTORY

Auto-Owners INSURANCE
LIFE • HOME • CAR • BUSINESS
Harbor Country Insurance Agency
Gregory A. Bubb, CIC
269-469-4438
212 S Whittaker St.
New Buffalo, MI
www.HARBORCOUNTRYINSURANCE.com

Web Design
Genesis
Genesis Web Design
St Joseph, MI
269.429.7014
Design • Maintenance • Hosting

ADVERTISE ON THIS PAGE
PLEASE CONTACT
JANINE L. ADAMSKI
JANINEADAMSKI@GMAIL.COM
(630) 370-0820

Amish Built Barns LLC
Largest Amish Dealer in SW Michigan
100 + MODELS ON LOT!
Custom Built!
No Credit Check!!
Rent to Own (Everyone Approved)
Sizes from 8'x8' to 32'x40'
AmishBuiltBarns.com • 269-876-1323 • 2305 M-139, Benton Harbor, MI
(Old Blossom Lanes Bowling Alley)

LARGEST SELECTION OF SPAS in the Area!
Artesian Spas · Nordic Hot Tubs · CalderaSpas Come to Life
SENSATIONAL Spas
Monday-Friday 9-5
Saturday 9-2
5595 Red Arrow Hwy.
Stevensville
269-429-7171
35 YEARS ANNIVERSARY
WWW.SENSATIONALHOTTUBS.COM

PROFESSIONALS IN ALL OF YOUR TREE CARE NEEDS
MAPLE CITY TREE SPECIALISTS
REMOVAL
TRIMMING
PRESERVATION
STORM DAMAGE
FIREWOOD
LOT CLEARING
SNOW PLOWING
FREE ESTIMATES
Commercial • Residential
37 Years Experience • Insured
DENNIS JEFFERS, SR.
219-393-3155
maplecitytree@comcast.net

PUBLIC NOTICES

NEW BUFFALO AREA SCHOOLS IS ACCEPTING STUDENTS FOR THE BISON BEGINNERS PRE-KINDERGARTEN PROGRAM AND KINDERGARTEN STUDENTS FOR THE 2025-2026 SCHOOL YEAR.

It is helpful to know how many students we will have as we begin planning for the 2025-2026 school year. If you believe your child will qualify for either the Bison Beginners Pre-Kindergarten program or for Kindergarten, please contact the office at 269-469-6060 so we can make sure your student is on our enrollment list. You can also email the elementary school's administrative assistant Jenna Wendel at jwendel@nbas.org. Please contact the office by Monday, April 7, 2025. You will need to include the following information: child's name, birth date, parent/guardian name, address, phone number and email address.

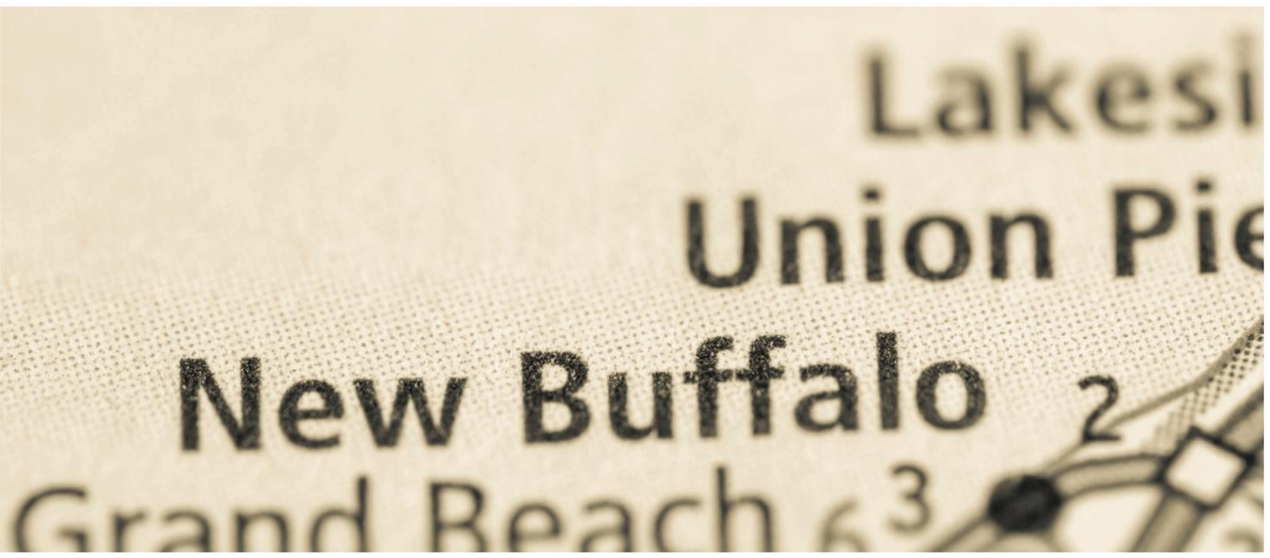
BISON BEGINNERS
Parents/guardians that have children who will be four years old by September 1, 2025 are able to register their child for the Bison Beginners Pre-kindergarten program. The program offers both half-day (a.m. only) or full-day sessions. Enrollment is limited to 25 students.

KINDERGARTEN
Parents/guardians with students that will be five years old by September 1, 2025 are able to register their child for the full-day kindergarten program.

SCHOOL OF CHOICE AND TUITION
If you do not reside in the New Buffalo Area Schools district but do live in Michigan, you are welcome to apply for the School of Choice program. Tuition is also an available enrollment option for students living out-of-state. Information and applications for both programs are on our district's website: https://www.nbas.org/o/nbas/page/school-of-choice-and-tuition-students.

HEARING/VISION/DENTAL SCREENING
Pre-kindergarten and kindergarten students planning to attend New Buffalo Elementary for the 2025-2026 school year will be able to have their hearing, vision and dental screening performed by the Berrien County Health Department on Tuesday, April 29, 2025 from 1:00-3:00 pm at New Buffalo Elementary. Appointments are required - please call or email the school office to schedule. This screening is required by the state of Michigan for kindergarten and highly encouraged by our district for pre-kindergarten. Please bring your student's birth certificate (original or a copy), student's immunization record and parent/guardian picture ID.

If you will not be attending the health screening on April 29, please contact the Berrien County Health Department at 269-926-7121, extension 5293 to schedule an appointment or visit their website for more information: www.berriencounty.org/634/hearing-vision-screening.



PET OF THE WEEK

LUCKY

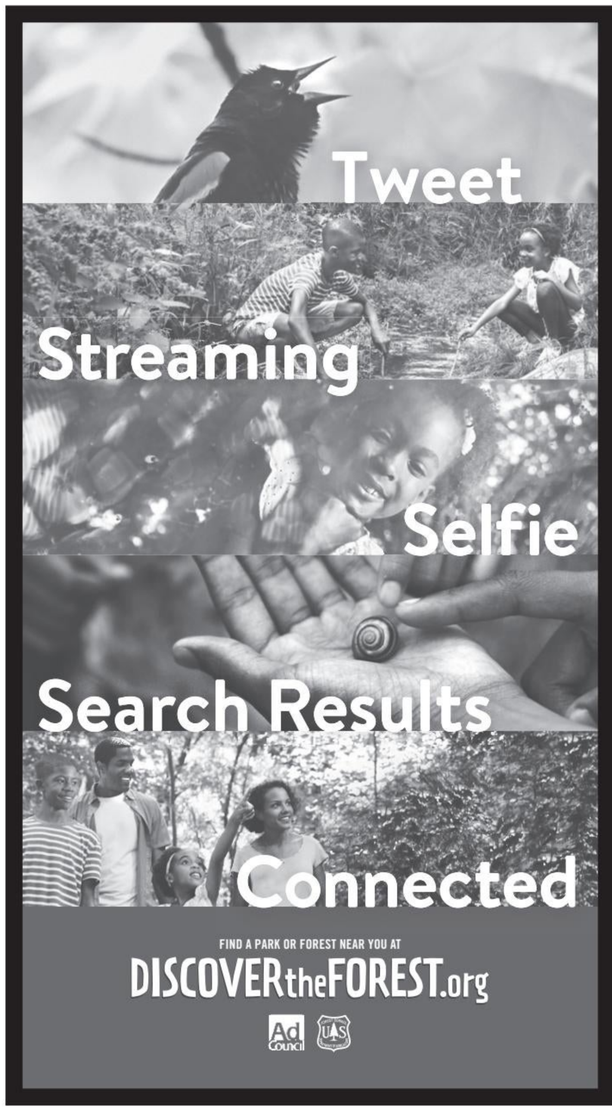
Lucky is your guy if you love tennis, as in throwing tennis balls. He loves to play fetch. Lucky is a huge cuddler once he gets to know you. He does the most adorable, excited little paw stompies, almost like a dance, when he is with the people he loves. He is known for not being shy about vocalizing what he wants. Lucky is almost 10 years old, his vaccinations are up-to-date, and he is neutered. He is happy around cats, but selective of other dogs, and prefers older children. Lucky is one of the most polite leash-walkers, and would prefer a quieter home. You would be lucky to get Lucky.

AVAILABLE AT THE MICHIANA HUMANE SOCIETY

LOCAL INTELLIGENCE
New Buffalo Times
— SINCE 1942 —

8	1	2	3	4	6	7	9	5
9	6	3	5	7	2	8	4	1
4	5	7	9	8	1	2	6	3
6	3	1	7	5	8	9	2	4
2	8	9	4	1	3	6	5	7
7	4	5	2	6	9	1	3	8
3	7	8	6	2	4	5	1	9
5	2	4	1	9	7	3	8	6
1	9	6	8	3	5	4	7	2

U	C	A	■	T	A	A	L	■	A	Q	U	A
R	O	M	■	O	B	I	A	■	T	U	B	A
E	R	R	■	I	A	N	A	■	R	A	I	L
A	M	A	H	L	■	■	P	A	I	D	■	■
■	■	■	R	E	A	L	■	D	A	R	A	C
H	O	P	S	■	G	A	Z	A	■	A	M	E
A	R	R	■	B	R	U	I	T	■	N	I	S
E	L	I	■	E	A	R	N	■	U	T	A	S
C	O	M	E	T	■	A	G	E	D	■	■	■
■	■	R	A	A	D	■	■	N	O	N	E	T
C	L	O	D	■	A	A	R	E	■	A	A	A
B	A	S	E	■	C	A	A	M	■	R	C	T
S	T	E	M	■	E	A	S	Y	■	D	H	U



Alex Schmok serves drinks in the patio

Guests enjoy corned beef on the back patio

Corned beef is on display at the front counter

Alex Silva and Krystin Rueber serve the drinks

David's Delicatessen celebrates 15 years of corned beef

BY FRANCESCA SAGALA

For one Sunday in March, Joe Lindsay, co-proprietor of David's Delicatessen, said, New Buffalo is the "corned beef capital of the world."

"I can't prove this, but I think this is the largest variety of corned beef you will find anywhere in the world," he said at this year's 15th annual beef-off, which took place Sunday, March 16.

This year, guests could sample corned beef from 18 different suppliers. Block and Barrel provided corned beef from as far away as Houston, Texas. Closer to home were Brewster's in New Buffalo Burn 'Em Brewing in Michigan City. Tomcat Tavern in Three Oaks, another local entrant, was declared this year's winner. Like most years, every entrant received at least one first place vote.

Guests sampled the corned beef along with a meal of potatoes and cabbage, washing it down with Irish whiskey and coffee and other beverages form The False Front. After, guests voted on their favorite supplier..

Proceeds from this year's event went to Neighbor by Neighbor, which is a nonprofit resource for our low-income neighbors in southwest Berrien County that Lindsay does an "incredible job of making ends meet" for people.

"If I need suit for a job interview, I need food for my pantry, you name it – they're kind of filling that gap," he said.

Corned beef is Irish American, Lindsay said. When the Irish first settled in America, they couldn't afford pork for bacon, or rasher, which they ate during celebrations.

"So, they saw their Jewish neighbors doing the same to relatively inexpensive cuts of beef, so the Irish immigrants adopted that and started to make that their celebratory meal," he said.

It was 15 years ago when Lindsay and Emma Brewster, also proprietor of David's, had almost finished their first year of owning David's. They felt they'd be expected to celebrate corned beef on St. Patrick's Day; however, they weren't sure how to do it.

The first corned beef-off was held for an hour at a big, long table with around 25-30 people.

"Next year, we got 150, next year 300 and it's just kind of grown from there," Lindsay said.

Bill Mccollum and Diane Pyshos show off their Irish spirit

Guests wait to enter David's for the corned beef-off

Ryan Welsh and Stephan and Henry Donnelly show off their Irish spirit

An Evening with Patricia Barber concert

A BENEFIT FOR THE SCHOOL OF AMERICAN MUSIC

The Acorn presents "An Evening with Patricia Barber" - a benefit for The School of American Music on Friday, April 25, 2025, at 8:00PM EDT. The concert will take place at The Acorn, 107 Generations Drive, Three Oaks, Michigan.

Jazz impresario, Patricia Barber, returns to The Acorn stage to benefit the non-profit School of American Music. Patricia cut her teeth in the Chicago jazz scene during the 1980s, playing five nights a week at the Gold Star Sardine Bar where crowds lined up around the block. She performed regularly at the Green Mill in Chicago and can still be found performing regularly at Winters Jazz Club, also in Chicago.

Barber has toured Europe and recorded extensively. She has earned international acclaim as a dazzling and uncompromising jazz artist. Long known for her sultry vocals, compelling pianism, and sophisticated songwriting, she has come to be regarded as a significant American composer as well – a deeply visionary artist who blurs the lines between poetry, jazz and art music.

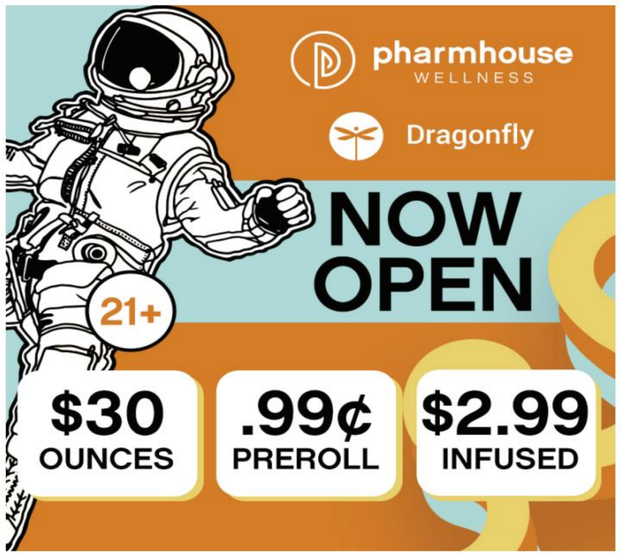
Barber has toured the globe with her bands, performing in everything from stunning large venues to her favorite intimate club venues while long continuing to hold court and hone her craft at the Green Mill. She famously turns down touring offers and has walked away from lucrative opportunities, opting to live life and make art.

Her "slow lane," one soon finds out, brims with activity. Out of the public eye, she focuses on an array of projects believing that education can only help, never hurt, her musicianship.

Tickets are on sale now on The Acorn website at www.acornlive.org. This concert takes place during Art Attack Weekend. Come out for the day to enjoy amazing artists around Three Oaks and stay that evening to enjoy a spectacular night of music!

The nonprofit School of American Music (SAM) provides an array of services including free concerts, music lessons, music enrichment assemblies, and community events.

For more information, contact SAM at 269-409-1191 or schoolofamericanmusic@gmail.com or visit School of American Music on Facebook or the website at www.schoolofamericanmusic.com. — STAFF REPORTS



INTEGRITY • EXPERIENCE • SUCCESS

L & B

LAROSE & BOSCO, LTD.

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

CHICAGO, IL • NEW BUFFALO, MI

MARK A. LAROSE

mlarose@laroseboscolaw.com

Real Estate, Business Law, Commercial Transactions, Injury Law

New Buffalo: (269) 469-8440
Chicago: (312) 642-4414

AT YOUR SERVICE
A COMPANY OF CRAFTSMEN
WWW.ATYOURSERVICE.BUILDERS
T.269.358.8159
CUSTOM: HOMES | RENOVATION | COMMERCIAL

Auto-Owners INSURANCE
LIFE • HOME • CAR • BUSINESS
HARBOR COUNTRY INSURANCE AGENCY
Gregory A. Bubb, CIC
269-469-4438
212 S Whittaker St.
New Buffalo, MI
www.HARBORCOUNTRYINSURANCE.COM

the one and only
the ACORN
THREE OAKS MICHIGAN
acornlive.org

NOW SERVING
FULL BAR!!!
GET A MARGARITA!
MARIACHI BAND
FRIDAY & SUNDAY
BEGINNING 4PM
AL FUEGO
GRILL & BAR
MEXICAN RESTAURANT
BREAKFAST
LUNCH • DINNER
OPEN DAILY • 7AM-10PM
18529 Harbor Country Drive
NEW BUFFALO
FIND US ON GOOGLE

TASTE THE
AMERICAN SPIRIT
THREE OAKS, MI & VALPARAISO, IN
Explore our factory and production floors to learn about the process behind our organic grain-to-glass spirits and the history of Journeyman. Tours end with an in-depth review and tasting of 10+ spirits. Tours offered weekly at both locations.
JOURNEYMAN.COM/TOURS
JOURNEYMAN